

APPENDIX 2

Mahabharata Characters and Spiritual Qualities

This is from Yogananda's commentaries on the *Bhagavad Gita*. Also listed from the *Mahabharata* is the circumstance of each person's demise—interesting for seeing which quality killed which. If you can fill any of the "demise" holes, please let Rich know.

Abhimanyu	Self-mastery (killed by six Kaurava warriors)
Ambalika	Positive discriminating faculty (retired to forest with Satyavati and Ambika)
Ambika	Doubt (retired to forest with Satyavati and Ambalika)
Arjuna	Self-control (died on <i>Mahaprasthanā</i> , due to his having insulted other great heroes)
Aswatthama	Desire born of past habits (immortal)
Bhima	Power of vitality (died on <i>Mahaprasthanā</i> , due to his boastfulness about his strength—and being a big eater)
Bhishma	Ego (killed by Arjuna)
Bhurishravas	Karma (killed by Satyaki)
Chekitana	Memory, divine and human
Dhrishtadyumna	Calm inner light (killed by Aswatthama in the post-war nighttime massacre)
Dhrishtaketu	Yama: power to follow proscriptive, negative rules
Dhritarashtra	Blind mind (retired to forest with Gandhari and Kunti, and died in a forest fire)
Draupadi	Kundalini power (died on <i>Mahaprasthanā</i> , due to her being more fond of Arjuna than of her other husbands)
Dronacharya	Intelligence influenced by habits (killed by Dhrishtadyumna)
Drupada	Extreme dispassion (killed by Drona)
Duryodhana	Material desire (killed by Bhima)
Dushashana	Anger (killed by Bhima)
Gandhari	Power of desire (retired to forest with Dhritarashtra and Kunti, and died in a forest fire)
Ganga	Primordial intelligence in Nature (immortal goddess)

Jayadratha	Body-bound inclinations, fear of death (killed by Arjuna)
Karna	See "Radheya"
Kashiraja	Principal enlightening faculty, intelligence
Kripa	Delusion (immortal— <i>sigh</i>)
Kunti	Power of dispassion (retired to forest with Gandhari and Dhritarashtra, and died in a forest fire)
Kuntibhoja	Asana: right bodily posture
Nakula	Power to practice the niyamas, to obey good rules (died on <i>Mahaprasthanā</i> , due to vanity about his beauty)
Pandu	Pure discriminating intelligence (killed by a brahmin's curse)
Purujit	Pratyahara: interiorization of the mind
Radheya	Inclination which seeks happiness; attachment; also greed (killed by Arjuna)
Sahadeva	Power to practice the yamas, to stay away from evil (died on <i>Mahaprasthanā</i> , due to his pride in his wisdom)
Sanjaya	Introspection (retired to Himalayas)
Satyaki	Devotion (killed in Yadava massacre at Prabhasa)
Satyavati	Primordial matter (retired to forest with Ambika and Ambalika)
Shaibya	Niyama: power to follow prescriptive, positive rules
Shakuni	Material attachment (killed by Sahadeva)
Shalya	Material pride (killed by Yudhishtira)
Shantanu	God the Father (... er ... died of natural causes)
Uttamaujas	Vitality or celibacy (killed by Aswatthama in the post-war nighttime massacre)
Vaishya	Attachment to desires
Vikarna	Repulsion; also greed (killed by Bhima)
Virata	Oneness, samadhi (killed by Drona)
Vyasa	Divine ego (immortal)
Yudhamanyu	Pranayama: energy control (killed by Aswatthama in the post-war nighttime massacre)
Yudhishtira	Calmness in psychological battles (ascended bodily to heaven)
Yuyudhana	See "Satyaki"
Yuyutsu	Desire to give battle to psychological tendencies